

TWISTED SENSITIVITY

# Two Steps Behind

---

Rating: PG-13 Genre: Friendship

**Rachelle Bedwell**

**5/1/2006**

Danny shows up at school with Chell one day. Does he have a reason or is he simple on orders? Follow them through the day & find out.

Chell stood in line, waiting to get on the bus & go to RTC in Rolla. “Hey sweetcheeks, whatcha doin’?” Danny Kunkel said walking up behind her.

“Hey sugar, I ain’t doin’ nuttin’, what you doin’?”

“Evidently I’m goin’ with you?”

“Says who?”

“Says the boss. He said I had to go to school & see how the students are treated to give us some ideas for the people at Briggs.”

“Well, I saw you watchin us this morning. Are you having to write a paper or something?”

“Something like that. We were told to pick a student that we know & inspires us to be a better person. I picked you cuz you’re one of my bestfriends. I just feel really close to you & knew you wouldn’t mind. Plus you could show me some of those website tricks.”

“That I could considering that’s what I do for two or three hours a day. Then we go to English III, gymnastics in Gym, & an assembly seventh hour today instead of boring American Government.”

“Sounds pretty much like fun.” They got on the bus & started piling stuff in the up in one of the seats, creating more room for them in their seats. Danny sat with Chell in her seat, realizing she was going to fall asleep he turned sideways so she could use him for a pillow. He remembered what it felt like to be in school.

~\*~

*ROLLA...*

They got off the bus & made their way up to her class. “Mornin’” Doyal said as they entered the room. Danny took him to the hall & told him what was going on. Then they started going over the codes for the websites. For the next three hours they built websites. “No wonder John doesn’t update enough; it’s a pain in the ass.”

“My sentiments exactly” She agreed.

“Time to go” Jeremy stated getting up.

“See ya” Doyal said. Everyone said bye & left. Once on board the bus they waited for the RTI kids to get on the bus.

“So, what do we do now?”

“Well, we go to English III with Mrs. Wilbur. I have to do a presentation in that class. Half way through that class we go to lunch.”

“What’s your presentation over?”

“What makes me happy. Now that I come to think of it you can help with that.”

“How’s that?”

“Well, up until the October I started muddin’ with you guys I was happiest when I was at a derby. But that changed.”

“Oh yea?”

“Yea, now I’m happiest when I’m muddin’. You guys are my family in a way.”

“Love you too.” Danny said kissing her forehead.

~\*~

*MY WALDEN...*

“Rachelle, you wanna go?” Mrs. Wilbur asked. She was the last person that could go that day.

“Sure.” She got up & turned the TV on, turning the volume all the way down because of the language. “Ok... my Walden isn’t just any particular person, place or thing. It’s a group of people & what they do. One of my favorite things to do is go mudding, or off-roading, with Show-Me MO Off-road Club. I even have a treat, the President of the club is here with me; Danny Kunkel.” Danny waved from the back & gave her a thumbs up. “This is one of the events I go to with them. It takes place in Eminence, its called Coot Mountain Mud Blast...” she pointed out a few trucks & said who owned them.

“Is there any special qualifications for a mud truck?” Mrs. Wilbur.

“I know most of these trucks have 350 small blocks with Dana 44 front ends.” All she got was a look that said, ‘English please?!’ “But other than that I have no idea. I know you need rough tread tires, you can’t get a grip with slick tires. Danny is there anything you wanna add?”

“No, I think you’ve got it covered.” He replied.

“Ok... umm I can leave this going if you like; it’s kinda fun to watch.”

“Sure.”

~\*~

Lunch was eventful as always. It was the usual talk about foreplay & what was going on at home. “You have quiet an eventful lunch, & morning.” Danny commented. He had realized in

the last 5 hours that she wasn't as innocent as he had originally thought. She could cuss like a sailor & didn't even blush when anything came up about sex. In fact she was the one usually suggesting most of the thoughts. She truly did fit in with the rest of Show-Me MO, she just didn't voice it for fear of her parents grounding her from the main joy in her life.

"Yea, it's usually more eventful. But my ex wasn't here to bug me. Plus everyone's sick or tired."

"Yea, I never thought you acted like that. You're usually quiet unless you're drinking."

"Welcome to my world, Mr. Kunkel, is there anything you would like to know that you don't already?" she teased. He raised a questioning eyebrow.

"There's a few..." he said thinking a few minutes, "You still a virgin?"

She heaved a deep breath, "Yes, I am."

"Wanna fix that?"

"Gotta boyfriend."

"Well shit, I'll just have to settle for boobies."

"Maybe later, but not right now."

"Damn it." he said snapping his fingers. She laughed as they walked to gym.

"Today, you should have fun watching us. You get ta see how flexible & athletic I can be. Prolly get a few bra shots out of it too."

"Hell yea!" he talked to Coach B & she set him on the stage. They'd evidently done this in the past.

"Hey, Rach, ready to make the world spin?" Chell teased once they were positioned around the mats. They talked as if Danny wasn't there.

"Today, we're gonna work on back bends. I need two people up here to help demonstrate." She pulled Rachael up there & had Josh spot her. She explained how to do it & had Rachael do one. "Is there anyone who can do it without a spotter?"

"I can." Chell said standing up. She proved it to, all the better for Danny's imagination. The hour went by pleasantly.

~\*~

*ASSEMBLY...*

“It’s been a while since I’ve been to one of these.” Danny stated as they made their way to the top of the bleachers. Half of the usual group was sitting up there.

“Yea, you thought lunch was eventful, this could be worse.” Chell said as Matt wrapped his around her.

“What the hell is Clay Moody doing here?”

“He’s one of the history teachers in the Junior High.”

“Oh yea.? What really pisses him off?”

“Being loud & disrespectful at the assemblies. Doing things like dirty dancing & saying the cheerleaders are gonna fall.” Tasha commented.

“Oh... hehe.”

“What are you planning?” Chell asked at the spark of mischief rising to his eyes.

“Just act like we’re at a party. The word train comes to mind.”

“Ooo, I like this idea. You in front, Matt behind.”

“Exactly.”

“Hey everybody,” Chell called her group together, “How many of you wanna piss off Moody?” All of them answered yes. “Well, we have an idea. Get in groups of three-”

“Preferably 2 guys & a girl or 2 girls & a guy...” Danny interrupted.

“Yea, when the music starts, dance dirty.” She finished. They had their first chance not long after. Danny was one level down so his head was even with her boobs. Other rebels nearby followed them into their dancing not so gracefully.

“You guys need to stop that.” Moody said giving them a dirty look that somehow managed to look stern as well. But they kept on till the music stopped.

“Chell, we should show the cheerleaders how to work it!” Jess said.

“Go for it.” Chell said motioning to the floor, now filled with badly choreographed dancing. She got up & took Chad with her, knowing it would make it look bad.

“C’mon, let’s go too!!” Danny plead with her. She had intended to go, sending Jess as a decoy to distract the teachers.

“Go ahead, I can’t do what he could.” Matt stated. Danny got up & pulled her to her feet. As they made their way to the gym floor they acquired a small gathering.

“Follow my lead.” Danny said putting his hands on her hips.

“Hold on, this would look better if...” she stripped out of her baggy skirt to reveal her Hukers-R-Us shirt. He laughed & pulled her to him again. She followed his lead down to the ground & up again. Danny spun her around & pulled her close again while snaking his hands all over her body. Everyone was so stunned, so they let it go on. It was the Mortal Kombat theme song, which was seven minutes long, & they had caught it in the first minute. Matt watched as Jess basically looked like a whore & Chell laughed through it as Danny lead her around the dancing area.

He picked her up & swung her around. “How far do you trust me?”

“That depends, you thinkin helicopter?”

“Yea” She smiled wide.

“Go for it. You’re sober.” He nodded & counted to three, before lifting her on to his shoulders & spinning around. When he let her down she slid past his hips & down to the floor as the song ended. The whole place erupted in applause.

“Will all of you step outside please?” Ms. Reeves asked them. Instantly the cheers turned to boos as she attempted to punish them. John Rooney managed to get a hold of the mic.

“That’s bullshit Reeves, that’s the best show we’ve ever had. It’s not our fault the cheerleaders suck & looks like a bunch of whores. Not a damn bit of that was indecent exposure or PDA. Her boyfriend is over there. I saw two friends having good, clean fun!”

They got off Scott-free after that little speech. Rooney got detention for cussing & the others got a verbal reprimand.

~\*~

“How are you getting home?” she asked. Her car was broken down so she hitched a ride that morning, but didn’t see her mom in the parking lot.

“Well, I brought the suburban. Jus’ got the new stereo installed in it. figured we’d go scope out Flat n’ Nasty.”

“I need to use your phone if we do that.” He nodded & handed her his cell phone. She called home & let her parents know where she was going. “No Chad!” she laughed, “Stop poking my fat!”

“Fat my ass! This is fat!” Chad said raising his shirt.

“Shit, if you’re fat, what’s that make me?” Danny teased. They stayed & talked a few more minutes. “Well, we better get moving.” She nodded & put her stuff in the back of the suburban & popping a sucker in her mouth. “Name a song.”

“How ‘bout we play name that song?”

“Sure.” He set his MP3 player on random & she placed the Post-It note over it so they couldn’t see it. They so they couldn’t see it. They did that until they got down to Flat n’ Nasty.

“That’ll be \$30 please.”

“I had arranged with the boss to come scout this place for Show-Me MO Off-road.”

“A Mr. Danny Kunkel?”

“Yep, she’s just along for the ride.”

“Go ahead, hope you got four-wheel drive.”

~\*~

“That looked like fun!” she exclaimed as they got ready to go back to town. They settled into silence & soon her head was tilted pre-cariously to the side.

“That’s gotta be uncomfortable.” Danny said to himself. She still had her seat belt on so he reached over & rolled her head on to the seatbelt. He smiled as she pulled her knees to her chest.

The day ended well. He fed her Sonic & took her home. Over the next couple of years he became like a brother to her. He was also very protective of her from that day on.